



Bucks County Show

Newsletter No. 19

February 2023

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT - Mr Howard Cox



After a break of two years due to Covid, there was an air of unreality, even anxiety as September 1st 2022 approached. That two year break had seen a number of our usual trade stand displays disappear, the farming world was on tenter hooks as to how the industry was to proceed in the future, as edicts and plans from above were unclear, indecisive and not really dealing with the unanswered questions of food insecurity in the country highlighted by the tragedy of Ukraine, all capped by an exceptionally hot summer creating its own dramas in field and forest. These were all reasons for uncertainty and a little feeling of caution about our big return.

However the day dawned, somehow we all remembered how to put together a show, although we had no horse jumping; the

ground was far too hard, we had no water because of the drought to rectify the situation. But at 5am in the morning that old very familiar atmosphere returned, the show ground gradually, at an accelerating pace, came to life. The cattle tents bellowed, overnight security guards appeared out of the lightening sky, radios began to crackle, exasperated opinions expressed as all those oh so minor items of yesterday became urgent. What a grand team of secretariat and stewards we have, as they all fell straight back into a "Can Do" mode.

As for my day I had a brilliant time. President is a figure head who is given a day of sheer enjoyment. It starts with a full guided tour of the show. Although after 35 years drawing the layout I had a fair idea as to the geography, but never the opportunity to browse, stop off, natter, present the occasional rosette to sheep and cow, continue to marvel at the displays in the horticultural world, but sadly denied a taste of cake or lemon curd, and to generally absorb the view that the public might see.

And how the public turned out! We were short of a few trade stands and horses that jumped but the supporters of the Show in all their guises arrived by the many car load. We had a confusion earlier over our overflow carparks that fortuitously gave us an extra field on the day. We certainly needed it, preventing what might well have been an embarrassment of popularity. The weather played its part, the main ring displays of flying bikes, livestock grand parades, vintage tractors, hounds with hundreds of youngsters

flocking to fill the ring and the Irish Guards to add that undoubted style of pomp and tradition to the whole day.

All of this actually managed to add so many smiles to what in organisational terms had been very anxious anticipation. So to the Chairman, Management Committee and Secretariat my heartfelt thanks for getting us back on stage so emphatically.

However to you members we look to the future, we need more help in all areas from the day itself to the months of planning before hand, ideas, hands on and even sponsorship, so if you wish to see the Buckinghamshire County Show continue to thrive as it did last year then please make contact.

Looking forward to seeing you all later this year August 31st 2023. Thank you all so much.



2022 BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

We were delighted to welcome the crowds back to the Bucks County Show after a 2 year break due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The weather brought the crowds out with a record attendance and a fantastic day was had by all. The Bolddog Lings Freestyle Motorcycle Display Team once again entertained the crowds and we were pleased to welcome The Band of the Irish Guards.



This year's date for the diary—Thursday 31st August 2023

TRADE STAND WINNERS—2022

Doreen Smillie from the Royal Three Counties Show and Debbie Brock, High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire presenting the winning agricultural trade stand to Denne Engineering and the winning non agricultural trade stand to Preston Bissett Nurseries. The best Shopping Marquee stand was awarded to Greet & Smile whilst the Food Hall prize was won by Platinum Hampers.



SUPPORTERS

The Show continues to represent an important day in the agricultural calendar and gives us the opportunity to demonstrate to the County the value of a traditional Agricultural Show. As a charitable organisation, which receives no funding from public bodies, we are very conscious that the continued success of the Show relies upon the invaluable support from our members, sponsors and stewards, which helps us to continue in our efforts to promote a greater understanding of the agricultural industry to the general public. Without the generous support from our sponsors and the voluntary help from our stewards, we would not be able to maintain the high standard and success of the Show.

We are always looking for more people to become involved in the Show and if you would like to sponsor or steward in any capacity or know someone who would then please do not hesitate to contact us. Tailored sponsorship packages start from £100 plus VAT.

2023 SHOW

Plans are well underway for the 154th Show which will be held on



MEMBERSHIP

The rates for 2023 are as follows:

Vice President - £71 Family - £70 Joint - £60 Individual - £33

Members Day Guest - £27 Junior Member (5-16yrs) - £10

FROM 1ST MAY IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP ONLINE VIA OUR WEBSITE. BADGES & PASSES WILL STILL BE SENT AS USUAL IN EARLY AUGUST.

ANY SUBSCRIPTION RECEIVED AFTER 31ST JULY 2023 WILL INCUR AN ADMINISTRATION CHARGE OF £10

Management Committee Changes

We are pleased to have welcomed Fiona Hancock, Steve Pring and Felicity Goss to the Management Committee. Fiona took over the running of the Members' Lawn last year whilst Steve ran the extremely popular Countryside Area. Felicity will be taking over as Chief Home and Garden Steward from Jill Mitchell who will be stepping down this year. Mark Parrott, Vice Chairman and Chief Cattle Steward has also decided to step down after many years on the Committee. Roger Goodchild and Richard Ginger, both former Chairmen have also retired. Huge thanks go to Jill, Mark, Roger and Richard for all their hard work and dedication over many years.

Thursday 31st August 2023. Atkinson Action Horses have been booked as a new Main Ring attraction. A relatively new act to the County Show circuit; they have also produced horses for many films and television dramas such as The Kings Speech, Victoria, Poldark & Peaky Blinders. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 31st August.

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